

# California Jobs First Community of Practice

Thursday, October 26, 2023



# Agenda Overview

Agenda Item	Time
Introduction	5 minutes
Timeline and Program Updates	5 minutes
Program Rebrand: California Jobs First Overview and Q&A	20 minutes
California Jobs First Project Readiness	25 minutes
Wrap-up and Next Steps	5 minutes



# CERF Upcoming Program Activities

October 2023	Nov./Dec. 2023	2024
CERF Interagency Convening	Catalyst Application Closes	Tribal Set-Aside for Planning and Implementation SFP Development Process
CERF Rebrand Launch	Final Regional Plan Part 1 Due	Implementation: Project Selection Criteria Available
Program Evaluation: CERF ToC Workshop Cont. at CA FWD Summit		Summer: Full Regional Plan Due
Project Readiness Definitions Available		Summer: Implementation Phase SFP Release





# CALIFORNIA JOBS FIRST

California's approach to building an inclusive and resilient economy for all, good-paying jobs, and prosperous communities.

1. Partnership with CA Jobs Regions
2. Encompasses broad portfolio of investments across LWDA, GO-Biz, and OPR



# What This Means

- Strengthened commitment to program objectives: equity, climate, job quality and access, economic competitiveness, economic resilience
- Continued engagement in systems-change work centering disinvested communities

## Next Steps:

- Brand Guide, including regionally informed communications toolkit
- Full rollout early 2024



**Building a Community-Led,  
Climate-Forward Economy**

**Questions, Feedback,  
Ideas?**



**Building a Community-Led,  
Climate-Forward Economy**

# California Jobs First Project Readiness





# Project Readiness Stages

Project development towards readiness



Catalyst Predevelopment Phase projects



Implementation Phase projects

# Project Readiness Stages

- **'Exploratory'** projects
  - early stages of development
  - may be just an idea or a back-of-the-envelope plan
  - may need dedicated funding to study and develop into potential projects
- **'Last-mile'** projects
  - completed feasibility assessments (if applicable)
  - feasible/viable projects to achieve their stated objectives
  - undergone initial steps towards development and must clear a few additional hurdles
- **'Ready-to-go'** projects
  - have completed *all necessary and possible steps* to be ready for implementation upon receiving funding
  - for construction projects = 'shovel-ready'

# Project Readiness Requirements

At any stage of readiness, projects receiving California Jobs First funding will need:

- Project overview, with objectives, scope, workplan with timeline, and budget
- Identified service or benefits recipients
- Project sponsor
- Project team (internal staff and external partners)
- Community partnerships
- Potential risks to project's implementation or delivery of successful outcomes
- Approval by California Jobs First Regional Collaborative (formerly HRTC)
- Explicit alignment with California Jobs First Regional Plans
- Clear explanation of what grantee will deliver by end of grant, and clear explanation of what project success looks like and how success will be measured
- Be able to be completed within the expenditure deadline of September 2026, or have phases that are able to be completed within this timeframe

# Exploratory projects

Only require base-level criteria (from previous slide)

# Last-mile projects

- Completed feasibility study if applicable
- Some necessary plans or studies completed such as but not limited to: needs assessment, business plan, environmental assessment, site plan, preliminary engineering report, management plan, community outreach and engagement plan, or other plan or study necessary for the success of the project
- Potential funding sources identified

# Ready-to-go projects

- All necessary and possible plans or studies completed. The required plans or studies will depend in part on whether the project is a capital (construction) project or not
- Additional funding sources secured or soon-to-be secured (if applicable)

# Ready-to-go construction projects

- Construction projects must include the following:
  - Proof of site control
  - Preliminary permitting and approvals
  - Additional criteria as defined by the Interagency Team (anticipated release date in early 2024)

# Project Readiness Next Steps

- Share slides and accompanying document
- Early 2024: more guidance coming
- Readiness contractor



# Project Readiness

# Questions?